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10 December 2024

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay Bristol
BS1 6PN

Sent by email to:

TillbridgeSolarProject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Planning Inspectorate reference: EN010142

Dear [REDACTED]

APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR THE TILLBRIDGE SOLAR PROJECT

I am pleased to submit the Applicant's Deadline 3 submissions. They consist of the following documents:

Document	Reason
Updated Guide to the Application [EN0101432/APP/1.2(Rev05)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated draft Development Consent Order [EN010142/APP/3.1(Rev04)]	Updated to include agreed protective provisions with Cadent Gas.
Updated Environmental Statement Chapter 3: Scheme Description [EN010142/APP/6.1(Rev02)]	Updated to incorporate amendments following discussions with the Canal and River Trust in respect of their SoCG.
Updated Environmental Statement Chapter 10: Water Environment [EN010142/APP/6.1(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Written Submissions at Deadlines 1 and 2 received from the Environment Agency.
Updated Environmental Statement Chapter 12: Landscape and Visual Assessment [EN010142/APP/6.1(Rev01)]	Updated in response to comments received within Lincolnshire County Council's Local Impact Report and the Examining Authority's (ExA) First Written Questions.

Document	Reason
Updated Environmental Statement Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects and Interactions [EN010142/APP/6.1(Rev01)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Chapter 19: Summary of Significant Environmental Effects [EN010142/APP/6.1(Rev01)]	Updated in response to comments received within Lincolnshire County Council's Local Impact Report and the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Appendix 9-12: Habitat Regulations Assessment Report [EN010142/APP/6.2(Rev02)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Appendix 10-3 Flood Risk Assessment [EN010142/APP/6.2(Rev01)]	Updated in response to Written Submissions at Deadlines 1 and 2 received from the Environment Agency.
Updated Environmental Statement Appendix 12-6: LVIA Assessment of Visual Effects [EN010142/APP/6.2(Rev01)]	Updated in response to comments received within Lincolnshire County Council's Local Impact Report and the Examining Authority's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Figure 12-5: Topography and Watercourses [EN010142/APP/6.3(Rev01)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Figure 12-7: Public Rights of Way [EN010142/APP/6.3(Rev01)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Statement Figure 18-5: Transport Cumulative Traffic Routes [EN010142/APP/6.3(Rev01)]	Updated in response to ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Environmental Mitigation and Commitments Register [EN010142/APP/6.5(Rev01)]	Updated to record new mitigation or commitments included within the Application documents for environmental impacts.
Updated Planning Statement [EN010142/APP/7.2(Rev02)]	Updated Appendix B: Local Policy Accordance Tables in response to comments received from West Lindsey District Council within Local Impact Report relating to policies within the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan.
Updated Outline Design Principles Statement [EN010142/APP/7.4(Rev02)]	Updated to incorporate amendments following discussions with the Canal and

Document	Reason
	River Trust in respect of their SoCG and comments received within Lincolnshire County Council's Local Impact Report.
Updated Joint Report on Interrelationships between Nationally Significant Projects Part 1 [EN010142/APP/7.6(Rev01)]	Updated to reflect latest status of projects and to include reference to further cooperation agreement.
Updated Framework Construction Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.8(Rev02)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Framework Operational Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.9(Rev02)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Framework Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.10(Rev02)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan Part 1 of 2 [EN010142/APP/7.11(Rev03)]	Updated in response to comments received in Local Impact Reports and the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Framework Public Rights of Way Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.16(Rev01)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Framework Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [EN010142/APP/7.17(Rev03)]	Updated in response to the ExA's First Written Questions.
Updated Statement of Commonality [EN010142/APP/9.4(Rev02)]	As required by the examination timetable.
Updated Schedule of Changes to the dDCO [EN010142/APP/9.6(Rev01)]	Updated to reflect updates to draft Development Consent Order [EN010142/APP/3.1(Rev04)]

Document	Reason
Updated Statements of Common Ground (SoCG): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Lindsey District Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.8(Rev01)] • Nottinghamshire County Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.10(Rev01)] • Bassetlaw District Council SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.11(Rev01)] • Environment Agency SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.16(Rev01)] • Natural England SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.18(Rev01)] • Canal and River Trust SoCG [EN010142/APP/9.20(Rev01)] 	As required by the examination timetable.
Applicant's Response to Local Impact Reports [EN010142/APP/9.26]	As required by the examination timetable.
Applicant's Response to ExA's First Written Questions [EN010142/APP/9.27]	As required by the examination timetable.
Applicant's Response to ExA's First Written Questions (CONFIDENTIAL VERSION – FOR PINS ONLY) [EN010142/APP/9.27]	As required by the examination timetable.
Applicant's Response to Written Submissions at Deadline 2 [EN010142/APP/9.28]	As required by the examination timetable.

BESS – updates to Schedule 1 and Outline Design Principles

At Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1), the ExA raised a query regarding the terms “BESS station” and “BESS compound” in the **Outline Design Principles Statement [EN010142/APP/7.4(Rev02)]** and their relationship to the Work Numbers set out in Schedule 1 of the **draft DCO [EN010142/APP/3.1(Rev04)]**.

The Applicant has since been reviewing these two documents to ensure they are aligned and that it is clear as to what works are provided for under each Work Number. This work remains ongoing, and the Applicant intends to provide the ExA with an update (including, where necessary, updated versions of either or both documents), at Deadline 4.

SoCGs

The ExA's Rule 8 letter **[PD-008]** requested that the Applicant submit updated SoCGs with all the parties listed in Annex B at Deadline 3 and final signed versions of the SoCGs between the Applicant and parties no later than Deadline 6.

The Applicant is submitting SoCGs with the parties listed in the table above at Deadline 3 but will not be submitting SoCGs with Lincolnshire County Council ("LCC"), 7000 Acres, Other Solar Developers, Anglian Water, Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board ("Trent Valley IDB") or Network Rail at Deadline 3.

While discussions between the Applicant and these parties remain ongoing, there is no material update to the SoCGs previously submitted to the ExA. The Applicant is continuing to liaise with these Parties with a view to refining or resolving any outstanding issues and will look to submit SoCGs to capture these discussions at a subsequent deadline.

For the purposes of Deadline 3, the Applicant can provide the following updates:

- **LCC:** Discussions remain ongoing with LCC as the parties seek to narrow areas of disagreement, however LCC stated that they would not be able to respond to agree the latest draft SoCG at Deadline 3, as they wish to review the Applicant's Deadline 3 submissions before updating the SoCG. It was therefore agreed that an updated LCC SoCG would be submitted at Deadline 4.
- **Trent Valley IDB:** Trent Valley IDB has confirmed that it is comfortable with standard protective provisions such that bespoke provisions are not required. The Applicant has provided Trent Valley Drainage Board with a copy of its standard protective provisions for review and comment and is awaiting a response.
- **Anglian Water:** the Applicant can confirm that the protective provisions included in the draft DCO for the benefit of Anglian Water are agreed between the parties, however there are other aspects of Anglian Water's position that are the subject of ongoing discussions between the parties. The Applicant and Anglian Water will be in a position to provide the ExA with an update on these aspects, by way of an updated SoCG, at Deadline 4.
- **7000 Acres:** The Applicant has provided a draft SoCG to the 7000 Acres Group for review and is continuing engagement on the content of the SoCG. It is intended that a draft SoCG will be submitted at Deadline 4.
- **Other Solar Developers:** All positions within the SoCG are agreed apart from the final position relating to the further cooperation agreement, which has been circulated to the other solar developers for comment. The parties hope to submit an updated SoCG at Deadline 4.
- **Network Rail:** The Applicant is engaged in ongoing discussions with Network Rail in relation to its position on the Scheme, with the Heads of Terms and a Framework Agreement currently being reviewed by the Applicant.

Requests to be heard

In response to the ExA's Rule 13 letter dated 6 December 2024, the Applicant confirms that the attendees on behalf of the Applicant at Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2), Open Floor Hearing (OFH2), Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) and Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) scheduled between 14 and 16 January 2025, will be:

- Pinsent Masons: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
- Tillbridge Solar Ltd: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

- AECOM: [REDACTED] (Planning); [REDACTED] (Water Environment and Flood Risk); [REDACTED] Soil Consultancy Ltd (Soils and Agriculture); [REDACTED] (Health, Safety and Wellbeing); [REDACTED], BST&T Consultancy Services Ltd (Health, Safety and Wellbeing); [REDACTED] (Landscape and Visual Amenity), [REDACTED] (Noise); and [REDACTED] (Ecology).
- Copper Consultancy: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].
- DDM Agriculture: [REDACTED].

There may also be additional or alternative attendees on behalf of the Applicant where subject matter expertise is required, particularly for ISH2 and ISH3. These will be confirmed by the Applicant in due course.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Scheme, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the project team on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,



Project Director, Tillbridge Solar Limited